Villages submerged by the construction of the Vaigai Dam

* 2 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the names of the villages which will be submerged by the construction of the Vaigai Dam in Madurai district and the extent, the number of houses and population involved and the steps taken to rehabilitate them?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: Thirteen habitations in five Revenue villages consisting of 620 houses in all will be submerged. The names of the villages with the number of families affected and the steps taken to rehabilitate them are contained in the paper[a] placed on the table of the House.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: It is stated that 965 families would be affected. Will the Hon. Minister kindly tell us, now that the Dam has been opened, how many of these families have been rehabilitated and provided with suitable sites?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: To give an up-to-date answer I require notice.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: May I presume, Sir, that payment of compensation has already been arranged in the case of all these families and that the affected persons have been rehabilitated because as the Dam has now been completed and commissioned, something ought to have been done by this time to provide suitable habitation for these people?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: The last paragraph of the printed notes says that all possible steps are being taken for quick payment of compensation and the early rehabilitation of the affected persons. As regards the question of rehabilitating them on cultivable lands, only when the Project is completed, steps can be taken to rehabilitate them on arable lands. So, I think that since the work is over now, steps will be taken to rehabilitate them.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: As there has been some complaint that the compensation amounts have not been paid, may I appeal to the Government to verify and see that the compensation amounts are paid?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: Yes, Sir.

Purchase of raw drugs

* 3 *Q.*—SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the persons from whom the tenders are invited for the purchase of raw drugs that are used at the College of Integrated Medicine, Madras; and

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 60–62 infra.